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Tokyo

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For other uses, see Tokyo (disambiguation).

Tokyo (東京 Tōkyō<sup>2</sup>, "Eastern Capital") (Japanese: [toːkjoː], English /'toʊki.oʊ/), officially Tokyo Metropolis (東京都 Tōkyō-to?),[4] is one of the 47 prefectures of Japan. Tokyo is the capital of Japan, the center of the Greater Tokyo Area, and the largest metropolitan area in the world.[5] It is the seat of the Japanese government and the Imperial Palace, and the home of the Japanese Imperial Family. Tokyo is in the Kantō region on the southeastern side of the main island Honshu and includes the Izu Islands and Ogasawara Islands. [6] Tokyo Metropolis was formed in 1943 from the merger of the former Tokyo Prefecture (東京府 Tōkyō-fu²) and the city of Tokyo (東京 市 Tōkyō-shi<sup>2</sup>).

Tokyo is often thought of as a city but is commonly referred to as a "metropolitan prefecture". The Tokyo metropolitan government administers the 23 Special Wards of Tokyo (each governed as an individual city), which cover the area that was formerly the City of Tokyo before it merged and became the subsequent metropolitan prefecture. The metropolitan government also administers 39 municipalities in the western part of the prefecture and the two outlying island chains. The population of the special wards is over 9 million people, with the total population of the prefecture exceeding 13 million. The prefecture is part of the world's most populous metropolitan area with upwards of 35 million people and the world's largest urban agglomeration economy with a GDP of US\$1.479 trillion at purchasing power parity, ahead of the New York metropolitan area in 2008. The city hosts 51 of the Fortune Global 500 companies, the highest number of any city.[7]

Tokyo has been described as one of the three "command centres" for the world economy, along with New York City and London.[8] The city is considered an alpha+ world city, listed by the GaWC's 2008 inventory[9] and ranked fourth among global cities by A.T. Keamey's 2012 Global Cities Index.[10] In 2012, Tokyo was named the most expensive city for expatriates, according to the Mercer and Economist Intelligence Unit cost-of-living surveys, [11] and in 2009 named the third Most Liveable City and the World's Most Livable Megalopolis by the magazine Monocle. [12] The Michelin Guide has awarded Tokyo by far the most Michelin stars of any city in the world.[13][14] Tokyo hosted the 1964 Summer Olympics and is currently a candidate city for the 2020 Summer Olympic Games.[15]

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## Etymology [edit]

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Tokyo was originally known as Edo, which means "estuary".[16] Its name was changed to Tokyo (Tōkyō: tō (east) + kyō (capital)) when it became the imperial capital in 1868,[17] in line with the East Asian tradition of including the word capital ('京') in the name of the capital city.[16] During the early Meiji period, the city was also called "Tōkei", an alternative pronunciation for the same Chinese characters representing "Tokyo". Some surviving official English documents use the spelling "Tokei".[18] However, this pronunciation is now obsolete.[19]

History [edit]

Main article: History of Tokyo



Tokyo was originally a small fishing village named Edo, [6] in what was formerly part of the old Musashi Province.[20] Edo was first fortified by the Edo clan, in the late twelfth century. In 1457, Ōta Dōkan built Edo Castle. In 1590, Tokugawa leyasu made Edo his base and when he became shogun in 1603, the town became the centre of his nationwide military government. During the subsequent Edo period, Edo grew into one of the largest cities in the world with a population topping one million by the 18th century.[21] Tokyo became the de facto capital of Japan[22] even while the emperor lived in Kyoto, the imperial capital. After about 263 years, the shogunate was overthrown under the banner of restoring imperial rule.

1869-1943 [edit]

Main articles: Tokyo City and Tokyo Prefecture

In 1869, the 17-year-old Emperor Meiji moved to Edo. Tokyo was already the nation's political and cultural centre, [23] and the emperor's residence made it a de facto imperial capital as well, with the former Edo Castle becoming the Imperial Palace. The city of Tokyo was established.

Central Tokyo, like Osaka, has been designed since about 1900 to be centered on major railway stations in a high-density fashion, so suburban railways were built relatively cheaply at street level and with their own right-of-way. This differs from many cities in the United States that are low-density and automobile-centric. Though expressways have been built in Tokyo, the basic design has not changed.

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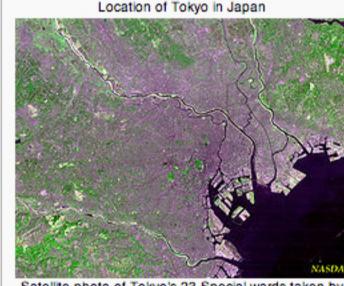
Tokyo 東京 - Metropolis -東京都·Tokyo Metropolis

Coordinates: @ 35°41'22.22"N 139°41'30.12"E

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Satellite photo of Tokyo's 23 Special wards taken by NASA's Landsat 7



Country Japan Region Kantō Honshu

Island Divisions 23 special wards, 26 cities, 1 district, & 4 subprefectures

 Type Metropolis Governor Naoki Inose (I) Capital Shinjuku Area(ranked 45th)

2,187.66 km2 (844.66 sq mi) Metropolis 13,572 km2 (5,240 sq mi) Metro

Population (August 1, 2011)[2][3] Metropolis 13,185,502 Density 6,000/km2 (16,000/sq mi) Metro 35,682,460 2,629/km<sup>2</sup> (6,810/sq mi) Metro density 23 Wards 8,967,665 (2011 per Prefectural Government) Tokyoite Demonym Japan Standard Time Time zone (UTC+9) ISO 3166-2 JP-13

blossom Tree Ginkgo tree (Ginkgo biloba) Black-headed Gull (Larus Bird ridibundus) Website www.metro.tokyo.jp @

Flower

Somei-Yoshino cherry



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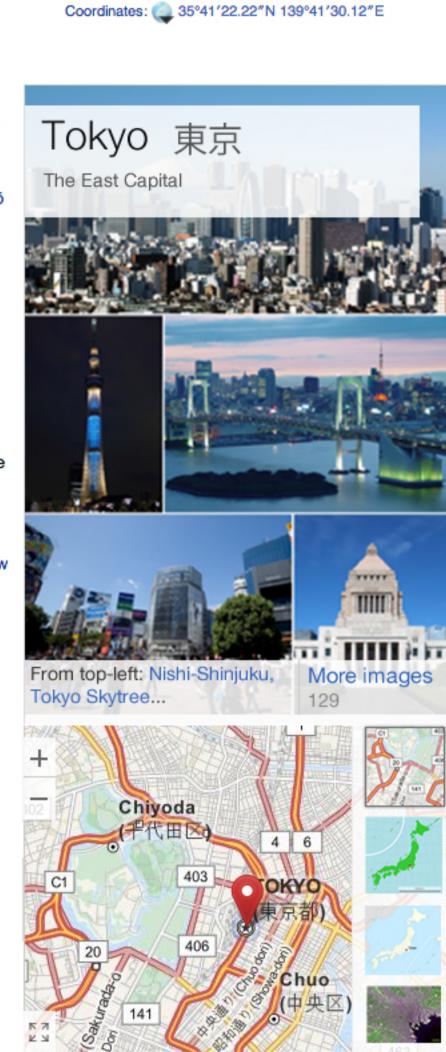
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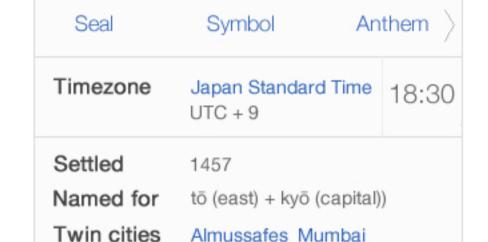
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## Government Type Metropolis

Area 45th

City

Region

Kantō

Island

Honshu

Divisions

26 cities

23 special wards

Tokyo

Song

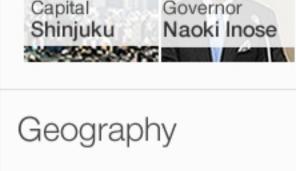
Metropolitan

(東京都歌...

2012 estimate [1]

Water





588 606.1 18 km<sup>2</sup> km<sup>2</sup> km<sup>2</sup> Elevation 182 m **Population** 23 wards Metropolis Metro 13,185,502 35,682,460 8,967,665 Metro Density density 6,000 2,629 /km<sup>2</sup> /km<sup>2</sup>

Land

Demonym Tokyone	
More information	
Flower Tree	Somei-Yoshino Ginkgo tree
Website	http://www.cityofchicago.org/

Domonym Tokyoita

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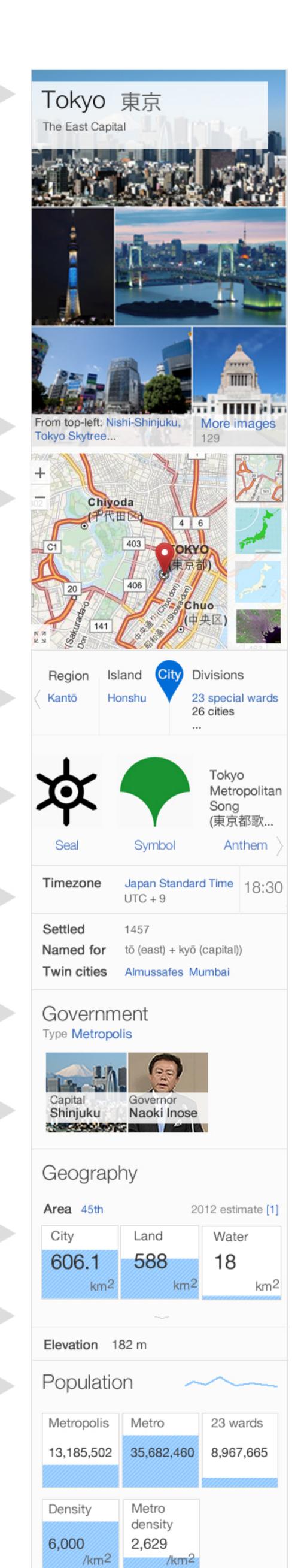
Section headings are added to structure the information in order to make scanning easier.

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Sections can be expanded if the content does not fit. Sections are expanded by clicking anywhere in the section.

Sparklines and other compact graphics can provide additional information an act as anchors to access other visualisations.



**Demonym** Tokyoite

Flower

Website

Tree

More information

Somei-Yoshino

http://www.cityofchicago.org/

Ginkgo tree